UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/1226
28 December 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 28 DECEMBER 1998 FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION 751 (1992) CONCERNING SOMALIA ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia (see annex), which was adopted by the Committee under the no-objection procedure on 24 December 1998 and is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

(Signed) Jassim Mohammed BUALLAY
Chairman
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 751 (1992)
concerning Somalia

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Annex

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia covers the period from January to December 1998.

2. A report of the Committee covering its activities from 1 January to 31 December 1997 was submitted to the Security Council on 31 December 1997 (S/1997/1029).

II. SUMMARY OF THE COMMITTEE'S ACTIVITIES DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

3. At its 14th meeting, on 6 January 1998, the Committee elected its bureau for 1998, which consisted of Ambassador Jassim Mohammed Buallay (Bahrain) as Chairman, with the delegations of Costa Rica and Gambia providing the two Vice-Chairmen.

III. OBSERVATIONS

4. The Committee does not have any specific monitoring mechanism to ensure the effective implementation of the arms embargo, and would like to recall its previous observations that it relies solely on the cooperation of States and organizations in a position to provide information on violations of the arms embargo. During the reporting period, no violations were brought to the attention of the Committee. In this regard, the Committee took note of Security Council resolution 1196 (1998) of 16 September 1998, in which, inter alia, the Council reiterates the obligation of all States to carry out the decisions of the Council on arms embargoes and also reiterates its request that all States report information on possible violations of arms embargoes established by the Council to the relevant Security Council Committees. The Committee also strongly endorses paragraph 2 of that resolution, in which the Council encourages each Member State, as appropriate, to consider as a means of implementing these obligations the adoption of legislation or other legal measures making the violation of arms embargoes established by the Council a criminal offence.

5. In accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 1196 (1998), the Committee intends to consider appropriate steps with a view to improving the monitoring of the arms embargo imposed against Somalia, and to that end will establish channels of communication with relevant regional and subregional organizations and bodies.